

144
INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

SECRET

UNCLASSIFIED

M
Action

Control: 16635

SS
Info FROM: PRES US THE WHITE HOUSE

Rec'd: OCTOBER 22, 1962
5:02 PM

TO: Secretary of State

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/LER

NO: 221822Z OCTOBER (WHITE HOUSE MESSAGE) () DECLASSIFY IN PARM

() DENY () Non-responsive info.
FOI, EG or PA exemptions

PRIORITY

IS authority to () CLASSIFY 23, GDR

ACTION NIAC T JCS, CINCEUR, CINCNAVEUR, INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
OF STATE.

() DOWNGRADE TS TO () GS OR () GDR

EXCLUSIVE

(CINCNAVEUR NOT ADD PASS TO GEN NORSTAD EXCLUSIVE)
CITE CAP 5492-62 JCS PASS TO USCINCEUR FOR GEN NORSTAD.

DEAR GENERAL NORSTAD: BY THIS TIME YOU HAVE FULL INFORMATION
ON THE SITUATION CONFRONTING US IN CUBA. AS THIS SITUATION HAS
DEVELOPED, I HAVE GIVEN MUCH THOUGHT TO ITS IMPACT UPON NATO
AND YOUR TASKS AS SACEUR. I HAVE REGRETTED THE INABILITY TO
WIDEN THE CIRCLE OF DISCUSSION DURING THIS PERIOD AND PARTICULARLY
TO ENLIST THE SUPPORT OF NATO GOVERNMENTS FOR THE COURSE
OF ACTION WHICH THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN OBLIGED TO TAKE.
WHILE I KNOW THAT OUR ACTION CREATES A DIFFICULT SITUATION FOR
YOU, BOTH IN YOUR ROLE OF SACEUR AND CINCEUR, I HAVE EVERY
CONFIDENCE IN YOUR LEADERSHIP AND EXPERIENCE TO HELP US OVER
THIS CRITICAL PERIOD IN OUR NATO RELATIONSHIPS. UNDOUBTEDLY,
A SOVIET OBJECTIVE IN UNDERTAKING TO CREATE A MILITARY BASE
ON CUBA HAS BEEN HIS LONG TIME DESIRE TO SPLIT THE NATO
ALLIANCE. THIS WE MUST NOT ALLOW HIM TO DO AND I KNOW THAT
YOUR PERSUASIVE VOICE WILL CARRY GREAT WEIGHT WITH OUR ALLIES
IN PRESENTING THE LOGIC AND NECESSITY OF THE AMERICAN ACTION.
WITH WARM PERSONAL REGARDS, SINCERELY, JOHN F. KENNEDY.

JT/21

NOTE: Handled as Eyes Only per: SS

REPRODUCTION FROM THIS COPY IS
PROHIBITED UNLESS UNCLASSIFIED

SECRET

77-1005-0019 PB